

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims as set forth below.

1. (Currently amended) A playback apparatus for playing back video data, comprising:
an input acceptance processing unit which accepts a playback instruction indicating a playback frame;

a memory which stores table information including first position information, which is absolute position information as to each frame of the video data, second position information, which is associated with the first position information as to each frame of the video data and is relative position information of the video data, and status information indicating a type of change pattern of a value of the first position information as to each frame of the video data, so that a plurality of consecutive frames having the same status information indicating a type of change pattern of a value of the first position information in the table information can be identified;

identifying means for identifying the second position information which is relative position information, relative to a starting frame of the video data, of a playback frame which is a frame corresponding to a frame playback instruction using first position information which is absolute position information as to each frame of the video data, by referring to the table information,

wherein the identifying means performs determination whether the first position information of the playback frame which is specified by the playback instruction exists in each status section which is grouped by the plurality of consecutive frames having the same status information, and identifies the second position information corresponding to the first position information of the playback frame which is specified by the playback instruction based on a result of the determination; and

playback means for playing back the playback frame corresponding to the second position information identified by the identifying means.

2. (Original) The playback apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first position information is a time code indicating an absolute position of the frame, using a real time.

3. (Original) The playback apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first position information is a time code indicating an absolute position of the frame, using time information relative to a predetermined time.

4. (Original) The playback apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second position information is a time code indicating a relative position of the frame, using a frame number indicating the number of frames counted from the starting frame of the video data.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The playback apparatus according to claim-5_1, wherein each element of the table information includes status information indicating a type of change pattern of a value of the first position information as to a frame after the change point.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The playback apparatus according to claim-7_1, wherein the identifying means performs the determination in turn for consecutive status sections in a direction that increases the second position information if a value of the first position information of the playback instruction is larger than a value of the first position information as to a frame that is currently played back, and the identifying means performs the determination in turn for consecutive status sections in a direction that decreases the second position information if a value of the first position information of the playback instruction is smaller than a value of the first position information as to a frame that is currently played back.

9. (Currently amended) A playback method for playing back video data, in which steps thereof are implemented by a computer system, comprising the steps of:

accepting a playback instruction to ~~indicating a play back a~~ playback frame, using first position information which is absolute position information as to each frame of the video data;

storing table information including first position information, which is absolute position information as to each frame of the video data, second position information, which is associated with the first position information as to each frame of the video data and is relative position information of the video data, and status information indicating a type of change pattern of a value of the first position information as to each frame of the video data, so that a plurality of consecutive frames having the same status information indicating a type of change pattern of a value of the first position information in the table information can be identified;

determining whether the first position information of the playback frame which is specified by the playback instruction exists in each status section which is grouped by the plurality of consecutive frames having the same status information;

identifying the second position information which is relative position information, relative to a starting frame of the video data, of a playback frame; corresponding to the first position information of the playback frame which is specified by the playback instruction based on a result of the determination, referring to the table information; and

playing back ~~a the~~ the playback frame corresponding to the second position information identified.

10. (Currently amended) ~~A program computer readable medium, for allowing a computer to execute processing for playing back video data, comprising~~ including program instructions executable by a computer system for:

accepting a playback instruction to ~~indicating a play back a~~ playback frame, using first position information which is absolute position information as to each frame of the video data;

determining whether the first position information of the playback instruction exists in each status section which is grouped by a plurality of consecutive frames having a same status information indicating a type of change pattern of a value of the first position information as to each frame of the video data in the table information;

identifying second position information which is associated with the first position information of the video data and is relative position information, relative to a starting frame of the video data, of a the playback frame and which corresponds to the first position information of the playback frame which is specified by the playback instruction based on a result of the determination; and

playing back a the playback frame corresponding to the second position information identified.

11. (New) The playback apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the identifying means performs the determination only when the status of the plurality of consecutive frames is increment.